AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Listing of the claims:

Following is a listing of all claims in the present application, which listing supersedes all previously presented claims:

1-9. (Canceled)

10. (Currently Amended) An information read and write apparatus comprising:

read device for reading one or more pieces of program information stored on a first information storage medium; write device for writing said program information read from said first information storage medium onto a second information storage medium;

power supply means for supplying an electric power from a main power source or an auxiliary power source to the read device and the write device;

detector means for detecting an interruption of at least any one of a read operation of said read device and a write operation of said write device in the course of writing said program information by said write device, said interruption being caused due to an electric power failure of the main power source;

determination means which operates when said detector means has detected the interruption, to supply an electric power from the auxiliary power source, to determine a write status of program information on said second information storage medium at the time of said interruption, and to store the write status sent from the detector means in a nonvolatile memory;

control means for controlling said read device and said write device, upon restarting writing said program information by said write device and in response to the write status read from the nonvolatile memory when the electric power supply from the main power source is restored, to continue a write operation on said second information storage medium from the program information to be read subsequent to the program information at the time of said interruption or to perform a rewrite operation on said second information storage medium from said program information at the time of said interruption.

11. (Previously Presented) The information read and write apparatus according to claim 10, wherein said detector means detects an interruption due to a power failure at least at any one of said read device or said write device.

12. (Previously Presented) The information read and write apparatus according to claim 10, wherein said determination means determines the write status of whether the program information at the time of said interruption has been written to its end or incompletely.

13. (Previously Presented) The information read and write apparatus according to claim l0, wherein said control means controls and thereby allows said write device to write information indicative of the write status determined by said determination means onto said second information storage medium.

14. (Previously Presented) The information read and write apparatus according to claim 12, wherein

when said determination means determines that the program information at the time of the interruption has been written to its end, said control means allows, upon continuing said write operation, said read device and said write device to continue a write operation from the program information to be read subsequent to the program information at the time of said interruption on said second information storage medium.

15. (Previously Presented) The information read and write apparatus according to claim 12, wherein

when said determination means determines that the program information at the time of said interruption has been written incompletely, said control means allows, upon performing said rewrite operation, said read device and said write device to erase the program information at the time of said interruption, having already been written on said second information storage medium, and perform a rewrite operation on said second information storage medium from the program information corresponding to said erased program information of the program information stored on said first information storage medium.

16. (Currently Amended) An information read and write method for reading one or more pieces of program information stored on a first information storage

medium and writing said program information onto a second information storage medium, comprising:

supplying an electric power from a main power source ~~or an auxiliary power source~~ to a read device and a write device;

detecting an interruption of any one of said read operation and said write operation in the course of writing said program information onto said second information storage medium, said interruption being caused due to an electric power failure of the main power source;

supplying an electric power from an ~~the~~ auxiliary power source when said interruption has been detected;

determining a write status of program information on said second information storage medium at the time of said interruption when said interruption has been detected and storing the write status in a nonvolatile memory; and

upon restarting writing said program information and in response to the write status read from the nonvolatile memory when the electric power supply from the main power source is restored, continuously performing a write operation on said second information storage medium from program information to be read subsequent to the program information at the time of said interruption or performing a rewrite operation on said second information storage medium from said program information at the time of said interruption.

17. (Previously Presented) The information read and write method according to claim 16, wherein

determining said write status is to determine the write status of whether the program information at the time of said interruption has been written to its end or incompletely,

when it is determined that the program information at the time of said interruption has been written to its end, said step of performing read and write operations in response to said write status continues a write operation on said second information storage medium from the program information to be read subsequent to the program information at the time of said interruption, and

when it is determined that the program information at the time of said interruption has been written incompletely, said step of performing read and write operations in response to said write status erases the program information at the time of said interruption, having been already written on said second information storage medium, and performs a rewrite operation on said second information storage medium from the program information corresponding to said erased program information of the program information stored on said first information storage medium.

18. (Currently Amended) A program storage medium storing a read and write procedure program to allow a computer to perform read and write operations for reading one or more pieces of program information stored on a first information storage medium and writing said program information onto a second information storage medium, said read and write procedure program comprising the procedure steps of:

supplying an electric power from a main power source ~~or an auxiliary power source~~ to a read device and a write device;

detecting an interruption of any one of said read operation and said write operation, said interruption being caused due to an electric power failure of the main power source;~~,~~

supplying an electric power from an ~~the~~ auxiliary power source when said interruption has been detected;

determining a write status of program information on said second information storage medium at the time of said interruption when said interruption has been detected, and storing the write status in a nonvolatile memory;~~,~~ and

upon restarting said write operation and in response to said write status read from the nonvolatile memory when the electric power supply from the main power source is restored, continuously performing a write operation on said second information storage medium from program information to be read subsequent to the program information at the time of said interruption, or performing a rewrite operation on said second information storage medium from said program information at the time of said interruption.